

**James Madison to Henry Dearborn, August 8, 1813.
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ed. Gaillard Hunt. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons,
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TO HENRY DEARBORN. MAD. MSS.

Washington, Augt 8th, 1813

Dear Sir I have recd. yours of the 24th July.¹ As my esteem and regard have undergone no change, I wish you to be apprized that such was the state of things, and such the turn they were taking, that the retirement which is the subject of your letter, was pressed by your best personal friends.

¹ In the letter of July 24 from Utica Dearborn said he intended to retire to his family near Boston and asked that an inquiry be made into his conduct.— *Mad. MSS.* The request was denied; but, ostensibly because of his ill-health, he was relieved of his active command and transferred to New York, considered an important post. Madison to Armstrong, Sept. 8, 1813.— *Madison's Works* (Cong. Ed.).

It was my purpose to have written to you on the occasion, but it was made impossible by a severe illness, from which I am now barely eno' recovered for a journey to the Mountains, prescribed by my Physicians as indispensable. It would have been entirely agreeable to me, if as I took for granted was to be the case, you had executed your original intention of providing for your health, by exchanging the sickliness of Niagara for some eligible spot, And I sincerely lament every pain to which you have been subsequently exposed from whatever circumstance it has proceeded. How far the investigation you refer to would be regular, I am not prepared to say. You have seen the Motion in the House of

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Representatives comprehending such an object; and the prospect held out of resuming the subject at another session. I am persuaded that you will not lose in any respect by the effect of time and truth.

Accept my respects & best wishes.